



His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah

## AMIR INQUIRES ABOUT SAUDI KING'S HEALTH

**KUWAIT:** His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah yesterday sent a cable to Saudi King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz to inquire about his health condition. Two similar cables were sent by HH the Deputy Amir and Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and HH the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah.

Meanwhile, HH the Amir sent cables of condolences to the President of Indonesia Joko Widodo, and to King of Malaysia Almu'tasimu Billahi Muhibbuddin Tuanku Alhaj sir Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah Ibni Almarhum Sultan Badlishah, on the crash of the Malaysian airliner aboard. Similar cables were sent by HH the Deputy Amir and Crown Prince, and HH the Prime Minister. — KUNA

## RATION CARDS: SECURING FOOD FOR KUWAITIS SINCE 1972

**KUWAIT:** Providing food security is amongst the chief priorities for the government and since the establishment of the Kuwait Supplies Company in 1972, ration cards played an important role in providing high-quality goods to consumers with nominal prices.

On an annual basis, the State of Kuwait provides around KD 100,000 million, (\$340 million), to cover citizens' needs for food and necessities. Through ration cards, heads of households are entitled to rice, fresh and powdered milk, Lentil, oil, and sugar.

Baby food and milk, dates, frozen chicken, and other food necessities were added to the list to cover the citizens' need for supplies and a committee was established by the state to look into the inclusion of more goods in the future according to the needs of citizens.

Ration cards also went through different phases with the recent step being the issuance of smart cards that are digitally connected to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry's data-base to ensure and improve methods of supplies distribution throughout the 69 ration centers in all Kuwaiti governorates.—KUNA



**KUWAIT:** Minister of Information and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Sheikh Salman Sabah Salem Al-Humoud Al-Sabah during his tour at the heritage village.



Sheikh Salman Al-Humoud Al-Sabah speaks to officials during the tour. —KUNA photos

# MINISTER HAILS AMIR'S SUPPORT TO HERITAGE FESTIVAL

**KUWAIT:** The support by His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah to the Fifth National Heritage Festival has contributed a lot to the prominent status it has come to enjoy, said Minister of Information and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Sheikh Salman Sabah Salem Al-Humoud Al-Sabah.

The Festival proves how Kuwaitis and Gulf people closely hold on to their rich heritage, Sheikh Salman Al-Humoud said after a tour in Sabah Al-Ahmad Heritage Village, citing the huge interaction by competitors and visitors.

The Minister added that his visit to the village, also with Chairman of Public Authority for Youth and Sports (PAYS) Sheikh Ahmad Mansour Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah and a host of ministries' officials, aimed at checking the final arrangements for the official launch of the Festival on 9 January, as well as following up current contests.

Sheikh Salman Al-Humoud expressed admiration for the distinguished prepara-

tions for the event, lauding efforts by the organizer committee. He stressed how the Village has come to constitute a heritage edifice that includes exhibitions for the six-member Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), as well as other facilities. A chief characteristic of the festival is the wide participation by heritage lovers, both in Kuwait and the Gulf, he said.

He thanked Amiri Diwan Advisor Mohammed Daifallah Sharar, who accompanied him on the tour, and Deputy Head of the Competitions Committee Sheikh Sabah Fahad Al-Nasser Al-Sabah as well as all members of the Festival committees for their hard efforts to secure it success.

For his part, Advisor Sharar said His Highness the Amir pays great attention to the popular heritage, offering limitless support to its lovers. Visitors are welcome to follow camel, horse, sheep, and hawk races, Sharar, Festival Supervisor, said. Cultural and artistic events will be held as part of the popular heritage event.



Sheikh Salman Al-Humoud addresses the press during the tour.



Amiri Diwan Advisor Mohammed Daifallah Sharar

He noted that the organizer committee aims at developing the Festival into a forum for the Kuwaiti and Gulf families and youth.

He lauded the role by the Ministry of Information and the Kuwaiti media for highlighting the prominent event. — KUNA

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